

"Amateur Radio: Combining communication experience with modern digital techniques."

October 2010

*Spring QRP Sprint 23 October
CQ WW DX Phone Contest 30 and 31 October*



VHFDX in ZS

Derek, ZS5Y, sent me an e-mail inviting me to join him on a new site called VHFDX in ZS <http://vhfdx.spruz.com/> "VHFDX in ZS, The home of 50 MHz and above in South Africa."

If you have an interest in VHF/UHF and higher, pay the site a visit and join up.

DXCC News

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL Awards Branch Manager, reports: "This information is provided, in advance, to those who use the DXCC assigned country/entity codes for programming software. Below are what will be the DXCC assigned country codes for the new entities once they are entered into the DXCC system:

517 - Curacao

518 - Sint Maarten

519 - Saba and St. Eustatius

520 - Bonaire

Note, the country codes for what will be the deleted entities will not change; they will just be flagged as deleted entities. Online, the only place where these codes are posted is in the text version of the DXCC list. Once we officially add the new entities to the DXCC software this list will then be updated to show the official changes to the DXCC list."

The following operations are approved for DXCC credit:

A51A - Bhutan, 2010 Operation

T6MB - Afghanistan, 2010 Operation

9U1RSI, 9U4T, 9U1KI and 9U1VO - Burundi, all 2010 Operation

If you have had any of these operations rejected in a recent submission, please send a note to dxcc@arrl.org. Either you can verify the update to your records by checking your LoTW account, or, you will see a change in the live daily listing on the DXCC web site.

APRS Messenger...APRS over digital modes

Chris, G4HYG, says, "In February I released a new APRS program, APRS Messenger that enabled the use of APRS on HF using PSK-63 rather than 300 bd AX.25 packet. Since then I have spent a lot of time working on the program and I have recently released the "finished" version. It can now send and receive APRS packets over PSK, QPSK and GMSK modes. It can also be used for two way I-gating to HF from the APRS-IS internet system.

HF Happenings 426



October

4 Schools open; Closing date SARL VHF/UHF logs
6 World Habitat Day; Closing date SARL Club logs
7 SARL 80 Metre QSO Party
8 Closing date Heritage logs
9/10 AWA Valve AM QSO Party
15 Boss' Day
15/16 CQ Hou Koers
15/17 JOTA
22 Closing 80 m QSO logs
23 Spring QRP Sprint
25 Closing date AWA QSO logs
30/31 CQ WW SSB DX contest

November

6 RaDAR Contest
6/7 ARRL CW Sweepstakes
7 National Marine Day
11 Armistice Day
14 Remembrance Sunday
20/21 SARL Field Day
20/21 ARRL SSB sweepstakes
24 SARL Club CW Contest
27/28 CQ WW DX CW Contest

There is a fair amount of activity especially in the US and Canada and there are I-gates in the US, Canada, Europe, Asia and Australia.

Most of the activity takes place using APRS over GMSK-250 as this has been found to be the most robust mode resistant to noise and interference with a short transmission time.

10,1497 MHz is being used as a worldwide frequency for this mode as it is just above the existing 300 bd AX.25 frequency of 10,1492/10,1494 MHz allowing the same receiver or transceiver to be used to operate on both APRS modes simultaneously.

The APRS Messenger program is freeware and downloadable at http://www.crosscountrywireless.net/aprs_messenger.htm.

Stephan Smith, WA8LMF, has written a guide to getting started, http://wa8lmf.net/APRS_PSK63/index.htm

Six and Ten Reporting Club

The Six and Ten Reporting Club is an informal group of radio amateurs, mostly from the UK, interested in propagation studies at frequencies around the HF to VHF boundary, mainly the 6 and 10 m amateur bands.

The club produces a monthly newsletter called the Six and Ten Report that includes analysis of 28 MHz propagation based on beacon monitoring, analysis of 50 MHz activity reports broken down by propagation mode as well as reports and discussions on unusual propagation events. The Report is usually published online at <http://g7kse.co.uk/6and10>, about 5 - 6 weeks after the end of the month.

The Six and Ten Report is edited and produced by Steve Reed, G0AEV, and Martin Harrison, G3USF, and is an activity of the RSGB's Propagation Studies Committee.

Contest Results

2009 CQ WW DX Phone Contest. There are a number of South African stations mentioned in dispatches!

Single Operator

Vidi la Grange, ZS1EL, All band high power, 138 852 points (311 QSOs, 48 zones and 126 countries)

Johan van Aarde, ZS2I, All band high power, 93 415 points (226 QSOs, 44 zones and 113 countries)

Kosie Smit, ZS1SR, 14 MHz high power, 98 523 points (305 QSOs, 34 zones and 89 countries)

Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 14 MHz low power, 22 525 points (115 QSOs, 29 zones and 56 countries)


Single Operator Assisted

Barney Fourie, ZS4U, All band, 2 621 376 points (2 745 QSOs, 85 zones and 248 countries)

Frank Kriel, ZS9T, 816 640 points (1 327 QSOs, 56 zones and 164 countries)

Multi-operator, single transmitter

Gary Potgieter and friends, ZS5NK, 273 420 points (506 QSOs, 63 zones and 147 countries)

"Success is going from failure to failure without losing your enthusiasm." Winston Churchill 



Multi-operator, two transmitter

Bloemfontein Defence ARC, ZS9X, 6 626 088 points (4 773 QSOs, 126 zones and 378 countries)

2009 CQ WW DX CW Contest - Bernie, ZS4TX, achieved 6th place in the world in his category.

Single Operator

Bernie van der Walt, ZS4TX, All band high power, 8 167 500 points (4 681 QSOs, 146 zones and 459 countries)

Vidi la Grange, ZS1EL, All band high power, 1 756 560 points (1 984 QSOs, 92 zones and 220 countries)

Barry Nugent, ZS2NF, 21 MHz low power, 2 700 points (49 QSOs, 10 zones and 10 countries)

Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 7 MHz low power, 13 888 points (90 QSOs, 17 zones and 39 countries)

Single Operator Assisted

Barney Fourie, ZS4U, 21 MHz, 337 212 points (1 178 QSOs, 23 zones and 79 countries)

2010 SARL HF CW Contest. Nine logs were received for the HF CW Contest, representing 5 clubs and 3 call areas.

Single Operator

1st Vidi la Grange, ZS1EL, 94 points

2nd Hans Kappetijn, ZS6KR, 84 points

3rd John Kramer, ZS5J, 64 points

4th Barry Brokensha, ZS6AJY, 60 points

5th Pierre van Deventer, ZS6BB, 56 points

6th Charles Le Roux, ZS1CF, 52 points

7th Bruce Dunn, ZS5XT, 48 points

8th Geoff Levey, ZS6GRL, 26 points

Multi-operator

1st West Rand ARC, ZS6WR, 100 points

Highest Score on a single band

Bruce Dunn, ZS5XT, 48 points on 40 metres

West Rand ARC, ZS6WR, 42 points on 40 metres

Combined Scores - SARL HF Phone and CW Contests

1st West Rand ARC, ZS6WR, 262 points

2nd Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 226 points

3rd Hans Kappetijn, ZS6KR, 223 points

4th Vidi la Grange, ZS1EL, 216 points

5th Gary Potgieter, ZS5NK, 184 points

6th Pierre van Deventer, ZS6BB, 150 points

7th Daniel Mans, ZS3D, 144 points


8th Philip Esterhuizen, ZS4PJ, and Pam Momberg, ZS6APT, 134 points

10th Thian de Jager, ZS2Y, and Marius Preston, ZS4MP, 123 points

12th Geoff Levey, ZS6GRL, and Peter Smith, ZS6PJ, 118 points

14th Allan Smith, ZS1AAX, 106 points

15th Oakdale ARC, ZS1OAK, 102 points

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16th Bruce Dunn, ZS5XT, 100 points
17th Mike Lauterbach, ZS5ML, 93 points
18th Johan Esterhuizen, ZS4PP, 91 points
19th Mitchell Mynhardt, ZS6YH, 89 points
20th Johan van Vuuren, ZS6JVV, 71 points
21st Dawn Snyders, ZS5ME, 65 points

Club Contest - Phone

1st ZS Contest Group, 451 points
2nd West Rand ARC, 325 points
3rd Highway ARC, 305 points
4th Pretoria ARC, 299 points
5th Antique Wireless Association, 154 points
6th Centurion ARC, 134 points
7th Port Elizabeth ARS, and Sasolburg ARC, 123 points
9th Overberg ARC, 122 points
10th Cape Town ARC, 106 points
11th East Rand ARC, 89 points
12th Bloemfontein RAC, 13 points

Club Contest - CW

1st Boland ARC, 146 points
2nd West Rand ARC, 126 points
3rd Pretoria ARC, 84 points

22nd Derek Stuart, ZS2J, 60 points
23rd Evan Seligman, ZS6ELI, 42 points
24th David Whitehouse, ZR1DGW, 35 points
25th Geoff Wagner, ZS5AGM, 28 points
26th Dennis Green, ZS4BS, 13 points

4th Zululand ARC, 64 points

5th Antique Wireless Association, 56 points

Club Contest - Combined

1st West Rand ARC, and ZS Contest Group, 451 points
3rd Pretoria ARC, 383 points
4th Highway ARC, 305 points
5th Antique Wireless Association, 210 points
6th Boland ARC, 146 points
7th Centurion ARC, 134 points
8th Port Elizabeth ARS, and Sasolburg ARC, 123 points
10th Overberg ARC, 122 points
11th Cape Town ARC, 106 points
12th East Rand ARC, 89 points
13th Zululand ARC, 64 points
14th Bloemfontein RAC, 13 points


African DX

Botswana, A2. Scasciafratti, A25ZY (IOZY), Lor, A25DF (IK1MDF), Frosty, A25CF (K5LBU), Giannarelli, A25MB (IZ5MMB), Irish, A25BI (K5ZOL), Julian, A25ASL (W5SL) and Lehman, A25AN (KD5TAN), will be on the air from 20 Oct until 4 Nov. They will work on 6 - 160 m with three stations simultaneously, each equipped with an amplifier. Antennas used will be a TET HB433DX beam, a Tennadyne T8 LogPeriodic, a Butternut HF6V and a 23 m high vertical. They plan to take part in the WW DX Contest as A25HQ (QSL via K5LBU). Each participant will take care of his own QSLs, direct or via bureau. More information is available on <http://www.qsl.net/a25-2010>

Madagascar, 5R AF-013. Martti, OH2BH, Pertti, OH2PM, Veijo, OH6KN, Antti, OH7EA, and Juha, OH8NC, are going to the capital Antananarivo (AF-013) from 26 Oct until 10 Nov. Their call sign will be 5R8X (also in the CQ WW DX Contest). OH2PM and OH6KN will focus on 80 and 160 m but the WARC bands will not come short.

Senegal, 6W. Luc, F5RAV, is going to hit the airwaves from La Somone signing 6V7T from 25 Oct 25 until 1 Nov. Luc will use the shack von Jean-Francois, 6W7RV, on SSB and PSK31 on 160 - 10 m. He also plans to join the CQ WW DX Contest. QSLs only direct via his home call. See also <http://f5rav.free.fr>

Gerard, F5NVF/6W, announced to show up on CW on HF during the same time. QSLs via his home call.

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Uganda, 5X. Alan, G3X AQ, will be visiting Kampala, Uganda from 14 November to 1 December. He will operate CW only on the HF bands as 5X1XA, with 100 w and a small beam. He will participate in the CQ WW DX CW Contest as a single band entrant, probably on 20 metres. QSL via G3SWH.

Uganda, 5X. Rudi, DK7PE, will be active as 5X0CW from Kampala for one week starting 27 October to 3 November. He plans to use his K2 radio and jumper beam (40 - 10 m). Activity will be mainly CW. Staying in downtown Kampala, he expects some local QRM, but he will try some 160 and 80 meters. QSL via his home call sign.

Democratic Republic of Congo, 9Q5. Christian, CX2CC, is now active as 9Q5OAR from the city of Goma, near the Rwanda border and is there working for the United Nations for one year. He hopes to be active on CW (slow), SSB and the Digital modes. Activity this past week was on 15, 12 and 10 metres SSB. He is using a TS430 transceiver into a Log Periodic or wire dipole. QSL via his home call sign CX2CC: Christian Cardarello, Avenida Italia 3319, CP11600 Montevideo, Uruguay, South America. QSLs will not be answered until his return in December 2011. Please, direct QSL send a SAE with 2 USD or a new IRC.

Democratic Republic of the Congo, 9Q. Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the independence of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Patrick, ON4HIL, Theo, ON4ATW, Marc, ON6CC, Luc, ON4IA, Wim, ON4CIT, and Ronald, PA3EWP, will be active as 9Q50ON from 3 - 13 December. They will operate SSB and CW on 160 - 10 metres. QSL via ON4BR, direct or bureau. Further information can be found at www.9q50on.be.

The Gambia, C5. Filip, ON4TA will be active as C56FR from Kerr Sering, The Gambia from 21 October to 11 November. He will operate SSB on 17 and 20 metres with 100 watts and simple wire antennas, but he also plans to give 6 and 2 m and 70 cm a try using Yagi antennas. QSL via ON4TA, bureau preferred.

Benin, TY. Mario, DL2UX, is active as TY1JB from Benin until 28 October. He has been spotted mainly on 15 metres, but he has antennas for 40 - 10 m. QSL via home call, direct or via bureau.

Canary Islands, AO8 (AF-004). Operators Pekka, OH1RY/EA8AH, Juan, EA8CAC, Manuel, EA8ZS, Salvador, EA5DY, Toivo, ES2RR, Jaakko, OH1MA, and possibly others will be active as AO8A during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (30 and 31 October) as a Multi-2 entry. QSL via EA8AH.

Canary Islands, EA8. Michael, DL6MHW, will be active as EA8/DL6MHW from Tenerife Island (IOTA AF-004, DIE S-012, WLOTA 1276, EAA TF) during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest as a Single-Op entry. QSL via LoTW.

Canary Islands, EA8. Mauri, OH2BYS, will once again be active as EA8CMX from Galdar, Isla de Gran Canaria (AF-004, DIE S-005, WLOTA L0969), during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest and CQ WW DX CW Contest (27 and 28 November) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (80 m) entry. QSL via OH2BYS.



Seychelles, S7. Davide, IW0HLG, will be active as S79AD from Mahe Island (AF-024) between 26 October and 4 November. Activity will be holiday style on the on HF bands and 6 metres using SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 18 to 25 October 2010.

Illinois QSO Party

17:00 UTC 17 October to 01:00 UTC 18 October

Mode: CW/digital, Phone

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 m

Classes: Fixed; Mobile; Portable; Rover; Non-IL

Exchange: IL: RS(T) and County; non-IL: RS(T) and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode per county

QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW/digital QSO

Multipliers: IL Stations: Each IL county, state, VE province once; IL Stations: Each DXCC country (max of 5) once; non-IL Stations: Each IL county once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 18 November 2010

E-mail logs to: n9jf[at]arrl[dot]net

Mail logs to: WIARC, PO Box 3132, Quincy IL 62305-3132, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.w9awe.org/ILQP%202010%20Rules.pdf>

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 18 October

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and Member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 24 October 2010

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://www.fpgrp.com/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.fpgrp.com/fpqrprun.php>

ARRL School Club Roundup

13:00 UTC 18 October to 24:00 UTC 22 October

Mode: CW/RTTY/Digital, Phone

Bands: All, except 30, 17 and 12 m

Classes: Single Op (I); Club/Multi-Op (C); School Club/Group (S)

Max operating hours: 24 hours total; 6 hours out of any 24-hour period with off times of at least 30 minutes

Exchange: RS(T), Class (I/C/S) and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW/RTTY/digital QSO

Multipliers: States, VE provinces, DXCC countries and (2x class C QSOs) and (5x class S QSOs) and (5x QSOs with KA2NRR)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 21 November 2010

E-mail logs to: (none)

Mail logs to: School Club Roundup, c/o LI-MARC, PO Box 392, Levittown, NY 11756, USA

Find rules at:

<http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup-1>

**NCCC Sprint**

02:00 - 03:00 UTC 22 October

Mode: (see rules)

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 24 October 2010

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>**FOC QSO Party**

00:00 - 23:59 UTC 23 October

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and VHF

Classes: Single Op

Exchange: FOC-Member: RST and Name and Member No; non-Members: RST and Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: FOC-Member: Score = Total QSOs/Total Member QSOs; non-Member: Score = Total Member QSOs

Submit logs by: 6 November 2010

E-mail log summary to:

focqp@firstclasscw.org

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://g4foc.org/index.php?id=57>**10-10 International CW Fall Contest**

00:01 UTC 23 October to 23:59 UTC 24 October

Mode: CW

Bands: 10 m Only

Classes: Individual; Club; QRP

Max power: non-QRP: >5 watt; QRP: 5 watt

Exchange: Name, state, province or country and 10-10 number

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with a non-member; 2 points per QSO with a 10-10 member

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 8 November 2010

E-mail logs to:

tentencontest@roadrunner.com

Mail logs to: Dan Morris, KZ3T, 131 Valencia Lane, Statsville, NC 28625, USA

Find rules at:

[http://www.ten-](http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSOPartyRulesRevised.pdf)[ten.org/Forms/QSOPartyRulesRevised.pdf](http://www.ten-ten.org/Forms/QSOPartyRulesRevised.pdf)**SYLRA Contest**

10:00 UTC 23 October to 10:00 UTC 24 October

Mode: CW, SSB, RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Op - OM or YL - Low or High

Max operating hours: 18 hours with off times of at least 60 minutes

Max power: HP: >100 watt; LP: 100 watt

Exchange: YL: RS(T) and "88"; OM: RS(T) and "73"

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 2 points per QSO with OM; 10 points per QSO with YL

Multipliers: Each DXCC country once per band per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 30 November 2010

E-mail logs to: ylcontest@sralfi.fi

Mail logs to: SRAL, OHYLS, Box 44, FIN-00440 Helsinki, Finland

Find rules at:

http://contestclubfinland.com/CCF/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=2**Stew Perry Topband Challenge**

15:00 UTC 23 October to 15:00 UTC 24 October

Mode: CW

Bands: 160 m Only

Classes: Single Op; Multi-Op

Max operating hours: 14 hours

Max power: HP: >100 watt; LP: 5 - 100 watt;

QRP: <5 watt

Exchange: 4-Character grid square



QSO Points: 1 point per QSO plus 1 point per 500 km; multiply QSO points by 4 if QRP station

Multipliers: Low power: x1.5; QRP: x3

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x power multiplier

Submit logs by: 23 November 2010

E-mail logs to: [tbdc\[at\]contesting\[dot\]com](mailto:tbdc[at]contesting[dot]com)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://jzap.com/k7rat/stew.rules.txt>

W/VE Islands QSO Party

16:00 UTC 23 October to 23:59 UTC 24 October

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 m

Classes: A. W/VE Island Fixed; B. W/VE Island Expedition; C. W/VE Island Rover; D. Non-Island W/VE; E. DX; F. SWL

Exchange: Islands: RS(T) and USI/CISA Island Designation; Non-Islands: RS(T) and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per island per mode per band

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 30 November 2010

E-mail logs to: [CM\[at\]usislands\[dot\]org](mailto:CM[at]usislands[dot]org)

Mail logs to: John Almon, WA4JA, 1411 Oak Leaf Dr., Columbia, TN 38401, USA

Find rules at:

http://www.usislands.org/contest_rules.html

Next Week's Contests

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 27 October

RSGB 80 m Club SSB Sprint, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 27 October

ARRL EME Contest, 00:00 UTC 30 October to 23:59 UTC 31 October

CQ Worldwide DX SSB Contest, 00:00 UTC 30 October to 24:00 UTC 31 October

10-10 International Digital Fall Contest, 00:01 UTC 30 October to 23:59 UTC 31 October

50 MHz Fall Sprint, 23:00 UTC 30 October to 03:00 UTC 31 October

ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 UTC-03:00 UTC 2 November

History This Week

A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW. The week starting Monday 18 October 2010

1824 Portland Cement is patented by J. Aspdin, Wakefield, Yorkshire

1853 F. Cobb arrives in Australia to set up Cobb & Co., stagecoach lines

1861 First transcontinental telegraph message from San Francisco to Washington. The Pony Express completed its last run the same day

1869 Lithgow ZigZag railway across Blue Mountains completed

1879 Edison invents the incandescent electric lamp

1884 Edison patents 2-element lamp (Diode valve)

1915 First transatlantic speech relay by radiotelephone by AT&T from Arlington to Paris

1922 The BBC is formed in Britain

1946 The South African Armoured Corps is established

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newsline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

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